

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Art Unit	:	
Examiner	:	
Serial No.	:	
Filed	:	Herewith
PCT No.	:	PCT/JP01/01004
PCT Filed	:	February 14, 2001
Inventors	:	Chikara Kami
	:	Akio Tosaka
	:	Takuya Yamazaki
Title	:	COLD ROLLED STEEL
	:	SHEET AND
	:	GALVANIZED STEEL
	:	SHEET HAVING
	:	STRAIN AGING
	:	HARDENING PROPERTY
	:	AND METHOD FOR
	:	PRODUCING THE SAME



22469

Docket: 1012-02

Dated: January 18, 2002

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

**BOX PCT**  
 Commissioner for Patents  
 Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, using marked-up copies of the Claims and also clean copies of such, we respectfully request consideration of the following amendments and remarks:

**In the Claims** (Marked-Up Version)

6. (Amended) A cold-rolled steel sheet having excellent strain age hardenability according to [Claims 1 to 5] Claim 1, wherein the steel sheet has a crystal grain diameter of 20  $\mu\text{m}$  or less.

7. (Amended) A cold-rolled steel sheet having excellent strain age hardenability according to [Claims 1 to 6] Claim 1, wherein strength after forming is increased by 60 Mpa or more by heat treatment in a low temperature region of 120 to 200°C.

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8. (Amended) An electro-galvanized, hot-dip galvanized or alloyed hot-dip galvanized steel sheet having excellent strain age hardenability comprising a coated layer formed on the surface of a cold-rolled steel sheet according to [Claims 1 to 7] Claim 1 by electro-galvanization, hot-dip galvanization, or alloying hot-dip galvanization.

12. (Amended) A method of producing an galvanized steel sheet having excellent strain age hardenability comprising hot-dip galvanization and then heat alloying after recrystallization and annealing according to [Claims 9 to 11] Claim 9.

Remarks

We have amended a number of the claims to place them into better form for examination on the merits and allowance.

Passage to the appropriate art unit for examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



T. Daniel Christenbury  
Reg. No. 31,750  
Attorney for Applicants

TDC:lh  
(215) 563-1810

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**In the Claims** (Clean Copy)

6. (Amended) A cold-rolled steel sheet having excellent strain age hardenability according to Claim 1, wherein the steel sheet has a crystal grain diameter of 20  $\mu\text{m}$  or less.

7. (Amended) A cold-rolled steel sheet having excellent strain age hardenability according to Claim 1, wherein strength after forming is increased by 60 Mpa or more by heat treatment in a low temperature region of 120 to 200°C.

8. (Amended) An electro-galvanized, hot-dip galvanized or alloyed hot-dip galvanized steel sheet having excellent strain age hardenability comprising a coated layer formed on the surface of a cold-rolled steel sheet according to Claim 1 by electro-galvanization, hot-dip galvanization, or alloying hot-dip galvanization.

12. (Amended) A method of producing an galvanized steel sheet having excellent strain age hardenability comprising hot-dip galvanization and then heat alloying after recrystallization and annealing according to Claim 9.